UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.usplo.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,701	09/30/2004	Patrick R. Guido	014682.000013	5700
44870 7590 05/17/2007 MOORE & VAN ALLEN, PLLC For IBM			EXAMINER	
P.O. Box 13706			ALI, OMAR R	
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2109	
		•		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/17/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Commence	10/711,701	GUIDO ET AL.			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
	Omar Abdul-Ali	2109			
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 66(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time rill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE	the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status					
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 Se	eptember 2004.	•			
<u> </u>	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is				
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposition of Claims					
4) Claim(s) <u>1-48</u> is/are pending in the application.					
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.					
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.					
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-48</u> is/are rejected.					
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.					
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.					
Application Papers					
	•				
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.					
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).					
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).					
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.					
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119	•				
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).					
a) All b) Some * c) None of:					
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.					
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage					
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).					
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.					
Attachment(e)					
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)					
2) Notice of References Cited (1 10-032) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	ate			
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/05.	5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other:	ratent Application			

نع

DETAILED ACTION

The following action is in response to the original filing of September 30, 2004. Claims 1-48 are pending and have been considered below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

- 1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:
 - Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.
- 2. Claims 44-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 44-48 are drawn to a computer readable medium, which the applicant has defined in the specification (page 14, paragraph 42) to encompass an electronic transmission signal. The Office considers an electronic signal to be a form of energy. Energy is not a series of steps or acts and this is not a process. Energy is not a physical article or object and as such is not a machine or manufacture. Energy is not a combination of substances and therefore not a compilation of matter. Thus, an electronic transmission signal does not fall within any of the four categories of invention. Therefore, Claims 44-48 are not statutory.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2109

ĩ

Ĉ

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1,15-17, 19, 20, 23, 24, 27-29, 36-38, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by <u>Chowdhry et al.</u> (US 2003/0167315).

Claims 1 and 44: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet, comprising:

a. deactivating a selected portlet in response to operating a deactivation feature [minimizing] (page 15, paragraph 270);

b. reactivating the selected portlet in response to operating a reactivation feature [restoring] (page 15, paragraph 271).

Claim 15: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet, comprising:

a. preserving, freezing or caching data or information in a selected portlet (page 14, paragraph 246);

b. changing a behavior of the portlet on the portal page (page 5, paragraph 106).

Claim 16: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 15 above, further comprising:

Art Unit: 2109

a. preventing the portlet from being affected by refreshes across the portal page (page 14, paragraph 243).

Claim 17: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 15 above, further comprising:

a. selectively toggling the portlet to change the portlet's ability to be targeted by a portal click-to-action feature (page 15, paragraph 270).

Claims 19 and 23: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet, comprising:

a. a plurality of portlets (page 15, paragraph 267);

b. a deactivation feature [minimize] associated with at least one of the plurality of portlets to deactivate the portlet to preserve a selected content of the at least one portlet (page 15, paragraph 270).

Claims 20 and 24: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 19 and 23 above, further comprising:

a. the at least one portlet comprises a reactivation feature formed in response to the at least one portlet being deactivated (page 15, paragraph 271).

Claims 27 and 38: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet, comprising:

Art Unit: 2109

a. a portal server (page 4, paragraph 94);

b. a portlet deactivation/reactivation feature operable on the portal server (page

15, paragraphs 270-271).

Claim 28: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 27

above, further comprising:

a. the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means to deactivate a

selected portlet in response to operating a deactivation feature (page 15, paragraph

270).

Claim 29: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 27

above, further comprising:

a. the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means to reactivate a

deactivated portlet in response to operating a reactivation feature (page 15, paragraph

271).

Claim 36: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 27

above, further comprising:

a. means for preventing the portlet from being affected by refreshes across the

portal page (page 14, paragraph 243).

Art Unit: 2109

ŕ

Claim 37: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 27 above, further comprising:

a. means for selectively toggling the portlet to change the portlet's ability to be targeted by a portal click-to-action feature (page 15, paragraph 270).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 4. Claims 2-9, 18, 22, 26, 30-35, 39-43, and 45-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chowdhry et al. (US 2003/0167315).

Claims 2 and 45: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 1 and 44 above, but does not explicitly disclose freezing a portlet content in the selected portlet in response to deactivating the selected portlet. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, which would in turn freeze the contents by eliminating user interactions with the minimized portlet (page 15, paragraph 270). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made at the time the invention was made to freeze the portlet content in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have

Art Unit: 2109

been motivated to freeze the contents of the deactivated portlet to prevent unwanted changes to occur while the portlet is deactivated.

Claims 3 and 46: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 1 and 44 above, but does not explicitly disclose disabling hyperlinks, buttons and other inputs to the selected portlet in response to deactivating the selected portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, which eliminates user interactions with the body of the portlet (page 15, paragraph 269). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to disable hyperlinks and other inputs in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to disable the inputs to the selected portlet in order to prevent the user from selecting functions that aren't desired at the time.

Claims 4 and 47: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 1 and 44 above, but does not explicitly disclose reconfiguring a portal server associated with the portal page to ensure that a portlet content of the selected portlet cannot be affected while the selected portlet is deactivated. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose a portal cache server, which stores the contents of refreshed portals, and the option to minimize a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature (page 5, paragraph 109). Since minimizing the portlet would disable user interaction with the contents of the portlet, the caching server would only receive updates from the portals that are active.

Art Unit: 2109

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reconfigure the portal server to ensure that a portlet content of the selected portlet cannot be affected while the selected portlet is deactivated. One would have been motivated to reconfigure the server to ensure that portlet content cannot be affected while the selected portlet is deactivated to prevent any undesired changes from occurring to the deactivated portlet.

Claim 5: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose detecting a deactivated state of the selected portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, and restoring a portlet by selecting a restore feature (page 15, paragraph 269). In order to allow the user to restore the portlet to its original active state, the server in Chowdhry would detect the deactivated or minimized state first. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to detect a deactivated state of the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to detect a deactivated state of the selected portlet in order to allow the user the option to reactivate the portlet.

Claim 6: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose replacing a content of the selected portlet with a frozen content in response to a portal server detecting a deactivated state of the selected portlet. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a

Art Unit: 2109

minimizing feature, which would in turn freeze the contents by eliminating user interactions with the minimized portlet (page 15, paragraph 270). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made at the time the invention was made to freeze the portlet content in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to freeze the contents of the deactivated portlet to prevent unwanted changes to occur while the portlet is deactivated.

Claim 7: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose enabling hyperlinks, buttons and other inputs to the selected portlet in response to reactivating the selected portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose restoring a portlet by selecting a restoring feature, which allows user interactions with the body of the portlet (page 15, paragraph 269). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable hyperlinks and other inputs in response to reactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to enable the inputs to the selected portlet in order to restore user interaction with the portlet.

Claim 8: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose permitting a content of the selected portlet to be updated in response to reactivating the selected portlet. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose a restore option to restore a minimized [deactivated] portlet, and the option to

Art Unit: 2109

manually refresh the selected portlet (page 14, paragraph 274). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to permit a content of the selected portlet to be updated in response to reactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to permit content of a reactivated portlet to be updated in order to present the most recent version of the portlet to the user.

Claim 9: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose launching a new portlet similar to the deactivated, selected portlet in response to a portal server receiving a request that calls for use of the deactivated selected portlet if the deactivated selected portlet is a singleton portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose the option to recreate a portlet with similar parameters to the original selected portlet (page 12-13, paragraph 225). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to launch a new portlet similar to the deactivated, selected portlet. One would have been motivated to launch a new portlet similar to the selected, deactivated portlet in order to edit a new instance of the deactivated portlet.

Claim 18: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 1 above, but does not explicitly disclose selectively ignoring a presence of a singleton portlet. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature and the option to interact with a plurality of portlets (page 15,

Art Unit: 2109

paragraphs 267 and 270). By minimizing a portlet, the user is selectively ignoring the instance of a portlet, and is able to interact with other portlets. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to selectively ignore a presence of a singleton portlet. One would have been motivated to selectively ignore the presence of a singleton portlet in order to interact with other portlets without constraints.

Chowdhry also does not explicitly disclose creating a new instance of the singleton portlet being needed to perform a task. However, Chowdhry does disclose the option to recreate a portlet with similar parameters to the original selected portlet (page 12-13, paragraph 225). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create a new instance of the singleton portlet in response to the singleton portlet being needed to perform a task. One would have been motivated to create a new instance of the singleton portlet in order to allow the user to dynamically edit the portlets.

Claims 22 and 26: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 19 and 23 above, but does not explicitly disclose another portlet similar to the at least one portlet being launched in response to a request that calls for use of the at least one portlet, if the at least one portlet is deactivated and a singleton portlet. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose the option to recreate a portlet with similar parameters to the original selected portlet (page 12-13, paragraph 225). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

Art Unit: 2109

was made to launch a new portlet in response to a request that calls for use of the at least one portlet. One would have been motivated to create a new instance of the singleton portlet in order to allow the user to dynamically edit the portlets.

Claims 30 and 39: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 27 and 38 above, but does not explicitly disclose the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means for freezing a portlet content in a selected portlet in response to deactivating the selected portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, which would in turn freeze the contents by eliminating user interactions with the minimized portlet (page 15, paragraph 270). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made at the time the invention was made to freeze the portlet content in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to freeze the contents of the deactivated portlet to prevent unwanted changes to occur while the portlet is deactivated.

Claims 31 and 40: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 27 and 38 above, but does not explicitly disclose the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means for disabling hyperlinks, buttons and other inputs to the selected portlet in response to deactivating the selected portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, which eliminates user interactions with the body of the portlet (page 15,

Art Unit: 2109

paragraph 269). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to disable hyperlinks and other inputs in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to disable the inputs to the selected portlet in order to prevent the user from selecting functions that aren't desired at the time.

Claims 32 and 41: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 27 and 38 above, but does not explicitly disclose the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means to reconfigure the portal server to ensure that a portlet content of a selected portlet cannot be affected while the selected portlet is deactivated. However, Chowdhry does disclose a portal cache server, which stores the contents of refreshed portals, and the option to minimize a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature (page 5, paragraph 109). Since minimizing the portlet would disable user interaction with the contents of the portlet, the caching server would only receive updates from the portals that are active. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reconfigure the portal server to ensure that a portlet content of the selected portlet cannot be affected while the selected portlet is deactivated. One would have been motivated to reconfigure the server to ensure that portlet content cannot be affected while the selected portlet is deactivated to prevent any undesired changes from occurring to the deactivated portlet.

Art Unit: 2109

Claim 33: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 27 above, but does not explicitly disclose the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means for detecting a deactivated state of the selected portlet. However, Chowdhry does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, and restoring a portlet by selecting a restore feature (page 15, paragraph 269). In order to allow the user to restore the portlet to its original active state, the server in Chowdhry would detect the deactivated or minimized state first. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to detect a deactivated state of the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to detect a deactivated state of the selected portlet in order to allow the user the option to reactivate the portlet.

Claims 34 and 42: <u>Chowdhry</u> discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 27 and 38 above, but does not explicitly disclose the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means for replacing a content of the selected portlet with a frozen content in response to the portal server detecting a deactivated state of the selected portlet. However, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, which would in turn freeze the contents by eliminating user interactions with the minimized portlet (page 15, paragraph 270). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made at the time the invention was made to freeze the portlet content in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to

Art Unit: 2109

freeze the contents of the deactivated portlet to prevent unwanted changes to occur while the portlet is deactivated.

Claims 35 and 43: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet as in Claims 27 and 38 above, but does not explicitly disclose the portlet deactivation/reactivation feature comprises means for launching a new portlet similar to a deactivated, selected portlet in response to the portal server receiving a request that calls for use of the deactivated selected portlet if the deactivated selected portlet is a singleton. However, Chowdhry does disclose the option to recreate a portlet with similar parameters to the original selected portlet (page 12-13, paragraph 225). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to launch a new portlet similar to the deactivated, selected portlet. One would have been motivated to launch a new portlet similar to the selected, deactivated portlet in order to edit a new instance of the deactivated portlet.

- 5. Claims 10-14, 21, 25, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chowdhry et al. (US 2003/0167315) in view of Stewart et al. (US 2002/0152110).
- Claim 10: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet, comprising:
- a. deactivating a selected portlet in response to operating a deactivation feature [minimizing] (page 15, paragraph 270);

Art Unit: 2109

b. reactivating the selected portlet in response to operating a reactivation feature [restoring] (page 15, paragraph 271).

Chowdhry does not explicitly disclose overlaying the selected portlet with an electronic pane or window to block all inputs of the selected portlet while the selected portlet is deactivated. Stewart discloses a similar method and system to control operation of a portlet, that further discloses overlaying a layer over a web page that is loading a graphic (page 4, paragraph 51). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to overlay the selected portlet with an electric pane or window to block all inputs of the selected portlet in Chowdhry. One would have been motivated to overlay the deactivated portlet with a pane or window in order to prevent a user from entering commands while the portlet is deactivated.

Claim 11: <u>Chowdhry</u> and <u>Stewart</u> disclose a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 10 above. Though neither reference explicitly discloses automatically replacing a content of the selected portlet with a frozen content in response to a portal server detecting a deactivated state of the selected portlet, <u>Chowdhry</u> does disclose minimizing a portlet by selecting a minimizing feature, which would in turn freeze the contents by eliminating user interactions with the minimized portlet (page 15, paragraph 270). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made at the time the invention was made to freeze the portlet content in response to deactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to

Art Unit: 2109

freeze the contents of the deactivated portlet to prevent unwanted changes to occur while the portlet is deactivated.

Claim 12: <u>Chowdhry</u> and <u>Stewart</u> disclose a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 10 above, and Stewart further discloses removing the overlaying layer after graphics on the underlying page have finished loading (page 4, paragraph 51). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to remove the overlaying pane in response to a portal server detecting a reactivated state of the selected portlet in <u>Chowdhry</u>. One would have been motivated to overlay the deactivated portlet with a pane or window in order to prevent a user from entering commands while the portlet is deactivated.

Claim 13: Chowdhry and Stewart disclose a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 10 above. Though neither reference explicitly discloses automatically replacing a frozen content of the selected portlet with any updated content in response to reactivating the selected portlet, Chowdhry does disclose a restore option to restore a minimized [deactivated] portlet, and the option to manually or automatically refresh the selected portlet (page 14, paragraph 243/page 15, paragraph 271/page 15, paragraph 274). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to permit a content of the selected portlet to be updated in response to reactivating the selected portlet. One would have been motivated to permit

Art Unit: 2109

content of a reactivated portlet to be updated in order to present the most recent version of the portlet to the user.

Claim 14: Chowdhry and Stewart disclose a method to control operation of portlet as in Claim 10 above. Though neither reference explicitly discloses launching a new portlet similar to the deactivated, selected portlet in response to a portal server receiving a request that calls for use of the deactivated selected portlet if the deactivated selected portlet is a singleton, Chowdhry does disclose the option to recreate a portlet with similar parameters to the original selected portlet (page 12-13, paragraph 225).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to launch a new portlet similar to the deactivated, selected portlet. One would have been motivated to launch a new portlet similar to the selected, deactivated portlet in order to edit a new instance of the deactivated portlet.

Claims 21, 25, and 48: Chowdhry discloses a method to control operation of portlet, but does not explicitly disclose an electronic pane of window or window overlaying the at least one portlet to block all inputs of the at least one portlet while the at least one portlet is deactivated. Stewart discloses a similar method and system to control operation of a portlet, that further discloses overlaying a layer over a web page that is loading a graphic (page 4, paragraph 51). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to overlay the selected portlet with an electric pane or window to block all inputs of the selected portlet in

Page 19

Application/Control Number: 10/711,701

Art Unit: 2109

<u>Chowdhry</u>. One would have been motivated to overlay the deactivated portlet with a pane or window in order to prevent a user from entering commands while the portlet is deactivated.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Abdul-Ali whose telephone number is 571-270-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri(Alternate Fridays Off) 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Myhre can be reached on 571-270-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OAA 05/11/2007

lames W. Myhre

Supervisory Primary Examiner

Lab-5